

Dompropstei \* Margarethenkloster 5 \* 50667 Cologne

### **LUX IN TENEBRIS – an oratorio for peace**

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of the second world war in May 2020 and peace in Europe, the oratorio LUX IN TENEBRIS by Helge Burggrabe will be performed in Cologne Cathedral. Light art, choirs, soloists, string and percussion musicians, as well as bible texts will be merged with poetry, read by well-known film actor Julia Jentsch, alongside images of the destroyed Cologne Cathedral to create a unique work of art. It's a piece of work about war and the longing for peace, which develops a vision of a different kind of fellowship and therefore gives courage and hope.

LUX IN TENEBRIS was created as a tribute to Hildesheim's St Mary's Cathedral, where it premiered. The Cologne Cathedral Chapter is collaborating with the city of Cologne to host the event. The patrons will be Cologne's chief mayor Henriette Reker and city dean Robert Kleine who will both give speeches at the performance on 8 May. Cologne Cathedral Chapter is hosting LUX IN TENEBRIS not just to commemorate the end of the war 75 years ago but also to celebrate the historically unique state of peace that has united Europe since 1945. But this peace is fragile and it's up to all of us to preserve it.

More than 150 artists, including the choirs at Cologne Cathedral and the Berlin Cathedral School, are collaborating on this vast project. Winfried Krane is the musical director and Michael Suhr is in charge of video and lighting design. By using different colour temperatures and nuances, he will accentuate the cathedral's architecture in harmony with the music and theme of the oratorio and project images of the flattened city of Cologne.

The oratorio will be performed on Thursday, 7 May and on Friday, 8 May 2020 at 9 p.m. in Cologne Cathedral. Between 16 and 20 March 2020, a draw will be held for free tickets to the two performances.

DOMRADIO.DE will broadcast the performance live on the internet on 8 May and in front of the cathedral on 7 and 8 May. DOMRADIO.DE's broadcasting signal will be made available for local commemorative events. Call +49 (0)221 - 25 88 650 or mail [ralf.walter@domradio.de](mailto:ralf.walter@domradio.de) if you have any questions about this.

On the two days the concert is held, the supporting programme of events will include seminars in the Minoritenkirche and a talk by journalist Heribert Prantl on 9 May at 8 p.m. For more info visit [www.koelner-dom.de](http://www.koelner-dom.de).